

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, UR, US

SUBJECT: EXPANSION OF US-USSR FULBRIGHT LECTURER EXCHANGE

STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV

LENINGRAD FOR P&C

USIA FOR IEU

REF: A. STATE 188389 B. MOSCOW 13191

1. P&C COUNSELOR AND CAO MADE ROUNDS OF CALLS, PRIOR TO FORMER'S DEPARTURE FOR CONSULTATIONS, TO PRESENT PROPOSALS FOR EXPANDED LECTURER EXCHANGE. THESE WERE FOLLOWED UP DURING MARKS VISIT AND SUBSEQUENT CALLS. NON-PAPERS DESCRIBING PROPOSAL WERE LEFT WITH EACH OFFICE. STATUS IS AS FOLLOWS.

2. MFA CULTURAL DIVISION: PROPOSAL RECIEVED POSITIVELY. BELIEVE SOVIETS WOULD PREFER TO CONFIRM PROGRAM IN DECEMBER REVIEW TALKS, BUT EMBASSY WILL PRESS FOR EARLIER DECISION TO FACILITATE RECRUITMENT IF EXPANSION TO BEGIN 1976/77. (VOLSKIY AND AZAROV NOW ON LEAVE.) IN ORIGINAL DISCUSSION, VOLSKIY EMPHASIZED NECESSITY OF INVITING INSTITUTION DETERMINING THE FIELDS (COMMENT: BOTH MFA AND MHE SAY THAT LOCAL UNIVERSITIES SET THE FIELDS, BUT EMBASSY AWARE THAT CENTRAL MINISTRIES SET POLICIES AND QUOTAS FAVORING HARD SCIENCES AND SCREEN UNIVERSITY REQUESTS FOR AMERICAN LECTURERS. SOVIETS WILL STRONGLY RESIST ANY US EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE BALANCE AT CENTRAL LEVEL, USING "UNIVERSITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AUTOMONY" AS EXCUSE. NEVERTHELESS SOME FLEXIBILITY CAN BE

INTRODUCED BY FIRM NEGOTIATION, INTRODUCTION OF PEDAGOGICAL SCIENCES, AND BY US SIDE NOMINATING UNREQUESTED HUMANITIES LECTURERS THEN PRESSING FOR PLACEMENT.)

3. VOLSKIY RAISED WITH MARKS TWO POSSIBLE OBSTACLES TO FURTHER EXCHANGES (SEE REFTTEL B.) IT IS POSSIBLE MFA WILL DELAY APPROVAL OF NEW US PROGRAMS PENING SIGNS OF ACTION ON DISTRIBUTION OF SOVIET LIFE AND SALES OF SOVIET FILMS.

4. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: MINED'S REPSONSE WAS MOST FAVORABLE AND EMBASSY HOPES EARLY AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED. (AGREEMENT MUST, OF COURSE, RECEIVE MFA APPROVAL.) MINED MAY ALSO BE INTERESTED IN FURTHER VARIATIONS, SUCH AS DEMONSTRATION TEACHING TEAMS AND EXHIBITS OF CONTEMPORARY TECHAING MATERIALS ACCOMPANIED BY SPECIALIST. THESE PROBABLY COULD BE SCHEDULED AT ANY TIME IF US SIDE HAD ATTRACTIVE PROPOSAL ON ONE OF THE MOST RECENT SCIENCE TEACHING SYSTEMS, ON HUMANITIES TOPIC SUCH AS "LITERATURE IN THE SCHOOLS", OR ON TEACHING METHORDS AND TECHNIQUES.

5. ACADEMY OF SCIENCES: FIRST ACADEMY RESPONSE WAS FAVORABLE TO CONEPT OF INCREASED PROGRAM, BUT THEY CONCERNED ABOUT LIMITED TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER ACADEMY AUSPICES. MEETING TO DISCUSS DETAIALS SCHEDULED ON RETURN FROM LEAVE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL IN EIGHT DAYS. BELIEVE THEY WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE FUNDING THEIR SIDE OF PROGRAM IF SUITABLE FORMAT CAN BE WORKED OUT. ANOTHER ACADEMY CONCERN IS THAT MIDDLE-AND SENIOR-LEVEL SCHOLARS ARE SO TIED DOWN THEY WOULD HAVE TROUBLE SPENDING ONE OR TWO SEMESTERS ABROAD AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLY FOR SHORTER PERIIODS. THEY DID SAY THAT THEIR YOUNGER SCHOLARS WOULDWELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN EXPERIENCE ABORAD FOR THE LONGER PERIOD.
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